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6 MS. LEPPALA: My name is Patricia Leppala,
7 L-E-P-P-A-L-A. Thank you for this opportunity to make a
8 public comment on the issue of transporting nuclear waste
9 to the Yucca Mountain repository.

10 We're at war at this moment. We are at war at
11 this moment and I feel this is a very insecure moment to
12 be transferring any nuclear waste across the U.S.

13 The casks are really vulnerable. The railroad
14 lines are very vulnerable. Without the war we had two
15 train accidents within the last several months right here
16 within the area, one with 45 cars that were derailed and
17 another between a train and Amtrak.

18 We can't allow this to happen with our nuclear
19 waste.

20 Then we're told that the Yucca Mountain is
21 really safe, but I have grave concerns about Yucca
22 Mountain. There have been earthquakes in Yucca Mountain
23 and at one time Nevada was covered by an inland sea.

24 There is quite a bit of water in Yucca Mountain

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1 even though we're told that's an arid area.

2 The accident with the train in Wendover was
3 between two trains and any time you have accidents you can
4 lose inventory.

5 We have sidings in this areas and there's
6 hazardous wastes in the tankers left on the sidings. We
7 don't want to see this in the nuclear waste. We would
8 lose control of the inventory of the nuclear waste. Also
9 they are open to any terrorist. This is a very open
10 railroad line.

11 The other part is that we can't really be sure
12 about these storage tanks because they are good to
13 800 degrees but we just found out but what about
14 temperatures above that?

15 Shipping is not the answer at this time. I
16 would I much rather see developed a better technology to
17 handle the nuclear waste than to ship it at this time.

18 There is another problem. The trains and the
19 people that will be able to ship this will be the people
20 that will give the lowest bids so we will be opening up
21 ourselves to the lowest bidder to handle the nuclear waste
22 in the west. I don't believe this is in our best
23 interest. I thank you.